



# Councilman Phil Andrews Reports to District Three

Derwood, Gaithersburg, North Potomac, Rockville, Washington Grove

## Investing in Education

The strength of our public schools is critical to our County's current and future success. Our schools are the gateway to opportunity for our young people. They provide the foundation for our highly-educated workforce, attracting quality employers and good paying jobs, which, in turn, help provide strong communities.

I am committed to continuous improvement of our school system. **The Council approved \$20 million for class size reductions. Now, every first- and second-grade reading class has no more than 15 children, and first-year algebra classes have no more than 20 students.** Continuing to reduce class size in targeted grades and classes is a wise investment. We also must provide better pay, and additional professional development opportunities and classroom resources for teachers.

I supported, and the Council approved, funding to accelerate the installation of air conditioning in public schools, to add classrooms at Wootton and Magruder High Schools to address overcrowding, and to complete the modernization of Mill Creek Towne Elementary School, Wood Middle School, and Churchill High School on schedule.

I support Montgomery College's growth and the partnership between the College and the University of Maryland Shady Grove campus that for the first time will enable County residents to complete a four-year degree without leaving the County.

## Dear Neighbor,

Each day, when I walk through the doors to the County Council, I think about what it means to represent you. It means working hard to expand opportunity for all people in our County. It means reaching out to include people of diverse backgrounds in civic life. It means investing your tax dollars wisely. And it means speaking up for people, neighborhoods, and communities who don't have lobbyists or PACs to speak for them. This report describes what I've accomplished since being sworn in on December 7, 1998.

*Phil Andrews*

## Helping the Working Poor

Despite our booming economy, many hard-working members of our community are poor. Nearly 20 percent of the children in our County's schools are eligible for free meals because their families make less than \$21,720 a year. The County's Health and Human Services Department estimates that the minimum standard of need for a family of four in the County exceeds \$33,000. Teachers see the effects of poverty every day in their classrooms, and have trouble even contacting parents who are working multiple jobs. In a recent survey, 67 percent of County teachers polled said that poverty contributes significantly to the educational achievement gap in our schools.

The living wage proposal I sponsored would have required organizations that accept large public contracts or economic assistance from the County to pay workers at least \$9/hour (\$18,720/year) with health benefits, or \$10.44/hour (\$21,720/year) without benefits. It doesn't make sense for

County taxpayers to subsidize companies that pay poverty-level wages. For example, child care workers average only \$7 per hour, leading to high turnover, reducing organizational productivity and service quality.

Although the living wage proposal came up a vote short, it succeeded in

**The living wage proposal succeeded in focusing attention on the needs of the working poor in our County. I will continue to advance the living wage proposal.**

focusing attention on the needs of the working poor in our County, and resulted in the Council unanimously providing \$11 million in additional funding for programs and tax credits assisting the working poor. That's good but it's not a substitute for raising low wages. I will continue to work with my colleagues and with community leaders to advance the living wage proposal.

# Transportation and Smart Growth Matters

## Improving Traffic Flow and Safety

The level of traffic congestion in our County frustrates all of us.

In addition to 19 transportation projects underway or starting by 2002 in District 3 alone (see the enclosed map), the Council also supports numerous

- ▶ connecting the Bethesda and Silver Spring Metro stations with light rail
- ▶ relieving congestion on Montrose Rd. The Council has provided funding for:
- ▶ improving the County's advanced traffic management system to inform commuters of problems, clear accidents faster, and adjust traffic light timing

**The County Council has adopted an aggressive program of transportation improvements to address congestion. The Council opposes the billion-dollar Inter-County Connector highway. Federal agencies have concluded the proposed ICC would harm our environment severely and irreparably.**

other transportation projects, including extending Norbeck Rd. from Layhill Rd. to Spencerville Rd. The Council is considering widening Muncaster Mill Rd., and has asked the State to study undergrounding Rt. 355 near Rockville Town Center.

The Council also supports:

- ▶ connecting Shady Grove Metro to Clarksburg with light rail. The route would cross King Farm, connect with Great Seneca Highway and Quince Orchard Rd., and then head north to Germantown and Clarksburg.

- ▶ promoting transit use, carpooling, telecommuting, staggered work hours, and compressed work weeks

The Council is addressing traffic safety. To help curb aggressive driving, the Council approved funding to install cameras to help catch red-light runners. To improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety, the Council approved new sidewalks and bikeways. The Council agreed with my proposal to add a sidewalk from Crabbs Branch Way to Muncaster Mill Rd. when Shady Grove Rd. is widened.

## Protecting Communities

We must manage growth in ways that enhance, not harm, our quality of life.

**I led the successful effort to eliminate the "Pay and Go" program because it allowed developers to build in communities with severe traffic congestion. It was passed 5-4.**

I voted to protect neighborhoods from inappropriate non-residential uses by strengthening standards required for a special exception to be granted by the Board of Appeals. It also was passed 5-4.

To protect quality of life in Derwood, I support adding noise walls when Shady Grove Rd. is widened to six lanes. I proposed and the Council agreed to provide funds to renovate the Emory Grove public housing community.

The Council unanimously voted to reduce the property tax rate, and **I sponsored the legislation to prohibit the County from charging taxpayers a fee to pay property taxes semi-annually.**

## Promoting Smart Growth and Preserving Open Space

We must integrate transportation and land-use planning. Encouraging transit-oriented development rather than sprawl preserves open space, reduces automobile use, and saves tax dollars by building on the existing infrastructure.

I support funding for Legacy Open Space, a visionary plan to preserve County land of outstanding environmental and/or historic value, and to connect sections of this land with trails.

To foster economic growth, Councilmembers Derick Berlage, Steve Silverman, and I advocated successful initiatives to eliminate the cell phone tax, encourage businesses to adopt family-friendly policies, and increase the marketing budget for economic development.

With our highly educated workforce and as the home of NIH, FDA, and the Shady Grove Life Sciences Center, our County is a world leader in biotechnology. The amazing era of regenerative medicine is underway here.

## Expanding Ride-On Bus Service

As a result of Council funding, Ride-On bus service in District 3 has increased dramatically, including:

**New a.m. and p.m. rush hour service:**

- ▶ Route 66 (Between Shady Grove Metro Station and Shady Grove Adventist Hospital via Research Blvd.)
- ▶ Route 67 (Between Shady Grove Adventist Hospital and Shady Grove Metro Station via North Potomac)
- ▶ Route 76 (between Poolesville and Shady Grove Metro via Quince Orchard and the Kentlands)
- ▶ Route 78 (between Germantown and Shady Grove Metro via Great Seneca Highway and the Kentlands)

There is free service on "The Rockville Pike Shuttle" from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, Route 91 (Between White Flint Mall and Twinbrook Metro Station).

**Sunday service** added on Route 56 (Between Lakeforest Mall and Rockville Metro Station via Rockshire)

**Late night service** (until 12:30 am) for the following routes:

- ▶ Route 5 (Between Silver Spring and Twinbrook Metro Stations)
- ▶ Route 26 (Between Montgomery Mall and Glenmont Metro Station)
- ▶ Route 46 (Between Shady Grove and Medical Center Metro Stations)
- ▶ Route 55 (Between Germantown, at Dorsey Mill Rd., and Rockville Metro)
- ▶ Route 59 (Between Montgomery Village Center and Rockville Metro)

Visit [www.dpwt.com/](http://www.dpwt.com/) for Ride-On schedules and other transit information in Montgomery County and the region, or call the Division of Transit Services at 240-777-5800.

## Safety Matters

### Strengthening Public Safety

We will soon need a sixth district police station to sustain excellent police services for residents in the mid-county. The Germantown District includes all areas north of Shady Grove Rd., is growing fast, and already generates the most calls for service of the County's five districts. As a first step toward establishing a sixth district station, the Council approved funding for a sub-station in the Gaithersburg/Montgomery Village area.

**The County is investing heavily in technology—a new radio system, fiber optics, a DNA laboratory, and computers in police cars—to improve productivity and public safety.**

The existing jail in Rockville is not up to current correctional standards. I voted for building the new jail in Clarksburg. The new 900-bed facility, capable of supporting an expansion to 1,100 beds, will meet the County's prison needs for decades to come.

Responding to a large increase in reports of child abuse and neglect, the Council approved funds to hire 22 additional child welfare workers.

### Providing Workplace Safety

Restaurants and bars are the only public workplaces in Maryland unprotected from the hazards of second-hand smoke. That will change in our County on January 1, 2002 when the law prohibiting smoking in restaurants takes effect.

**I co-sponsored this measure because all workers have a right to a safe working environment. It was passed 5-4 over strong opposition from the Tobacco Lobby.** Patrons also will be safer, particularly pregnant women, children, the elderly, and those with breathing disabilities. The Council's action will eliminate exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke inside restaurants.

## Protecting Yourself From a Stalker or Abuser

**S**talking is a pattern of threatening behavior that places the person being stalked in fear of harm. If you are being stalked or abused, the following suggestions may help you avoid harm:

- ▶ **In an emergency, call the police at 911. In a non-emergency, call the police at 301-279-8000. Make a report.**
- ▶ **Obtain a domestic violence protective order or Peace Order.** Go to the Civil Desk at the District Court in Rockville (27 Courthouse Square) or the District Court in Silver Spring (8665 Georgia Avenue). Both locations are only a short walk from Metro.
- ▶ **Change your pattern of behavior.** For instance, take different routes to and from work or school. Try to change your schedule. Travel with friends and have someone escort you to and from your car or other transportation.
- ▶ **Collect evidence of the stalking to file criminal charges** by keeping a log of every stalking incident. Include names, dates and times of contact with law enforcement officers and others.
- ▶ **Notify friends,** co-workers and family that you are being stalked. Ask them not to talk about you to anyone.
- ▶ **Have a cell phone at all times,** but know that police cannot track a 911 call made from a cell phone. Complete the call. It could save your life.
- ▶ **Obtain an unpublished and unlisted telephone number.** Get complete "Per Line" blocking.
- ▶ **If you get a Peace Order or Protective Order, keep a copy with you.** Call the police if there is a violation by the abuser/stalker.
- ▶ **Follow through with the courts.**

### Who is Eligible for a Domestic Violence Protective Order

You can apply for a domestic violence protective order if you are married to, separated or divorced from, have a child in common with, or have lived or formerly lived with the person from whom you are seeking protection for 90 days or more within the past year. If eligible, call the Abused Persons Program (240-777-4195) or Abused Persons Crisis Line (301-315-4673).

### The Peace Order

If you are being stalked or abused, but are not eligible for a domestic violence protective order, you can apply for a Peace Order, which requires the threatening person to stay away. A person who violates the Peace Order may be sentenced to jail.

To apply for a Peace Order, go to the Civil Desk at the District Court in Rockville (27 Courthouse Square), or the District Court in Silver Spring (8665 Georgia Ave.). Ask for the application to petition the Court for a Peace Order. Call the Montgomery County Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (240-777-1355) or Crisis Intervention (301-315-4000) for assistance.

The Court will first issue a Temporary Peace Order. Once the Sheriff has served it, the Order is in effect for 7 days. After 7 days, the Court will hold a hearing to determine if the Order should be extended for up to 6 months.

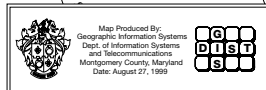
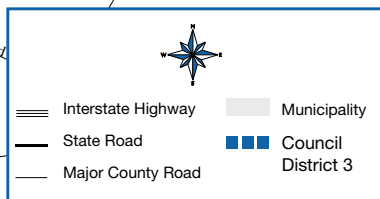
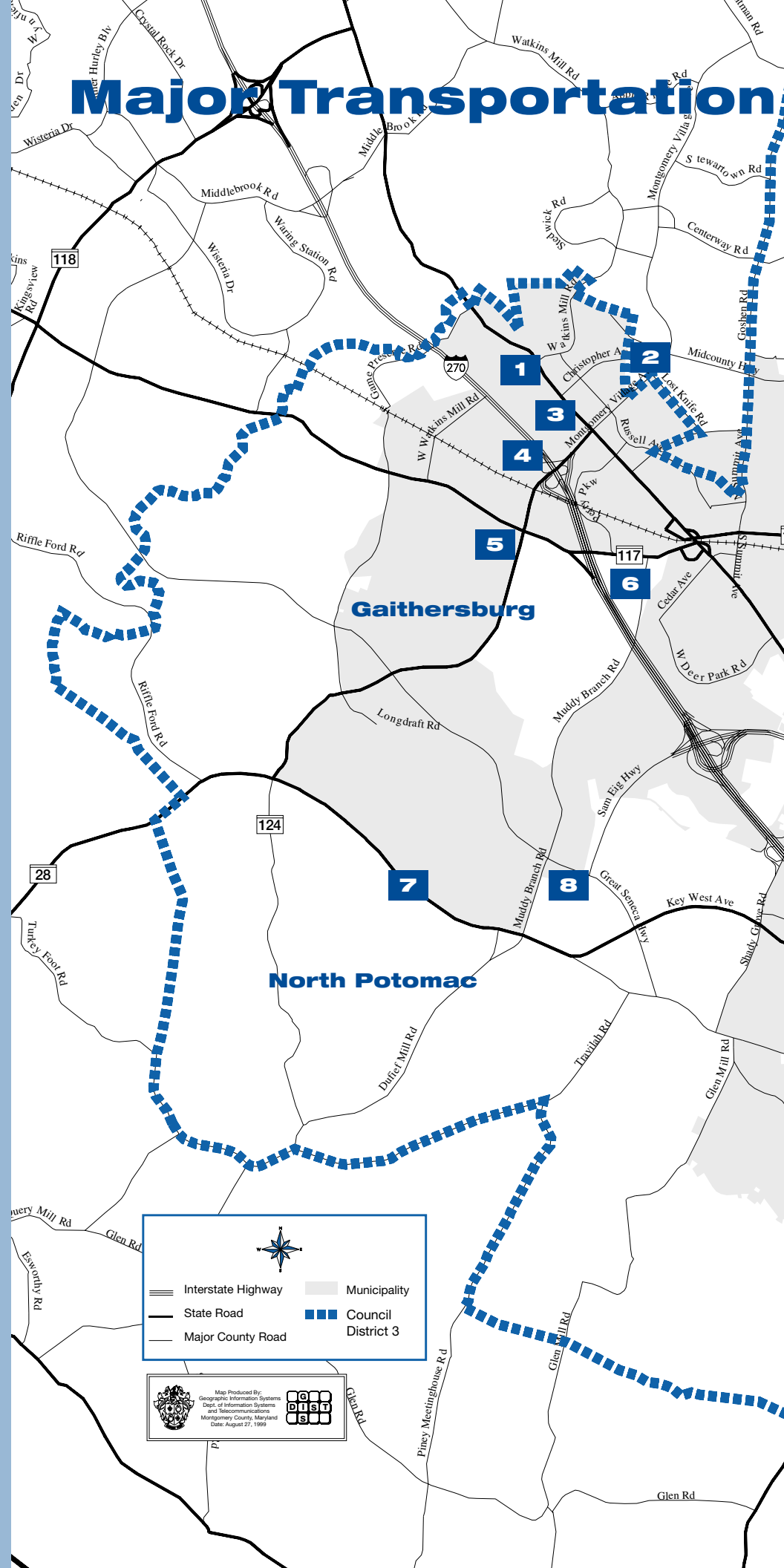
Prepared by Maria Sivillo, former Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Takoma Park Police Department

## Changing a Discriminatory County Government Policy

I was one of six Councilmembers who, with the County Executive, approved a bill that provides the qualifying domestic partner of a County Government employee access to the same healthcare and other benefits available to the spouse of a County Government employee. Since only opposite-sex couples can marry, the former policy discriminated against a gay or lesbian County Government employee who is in a committed, long-term relationship. Changing the policy recognizes the diversity of our workforce, and will help the County Government attract and retain outstanding employees.

# Major Transportation

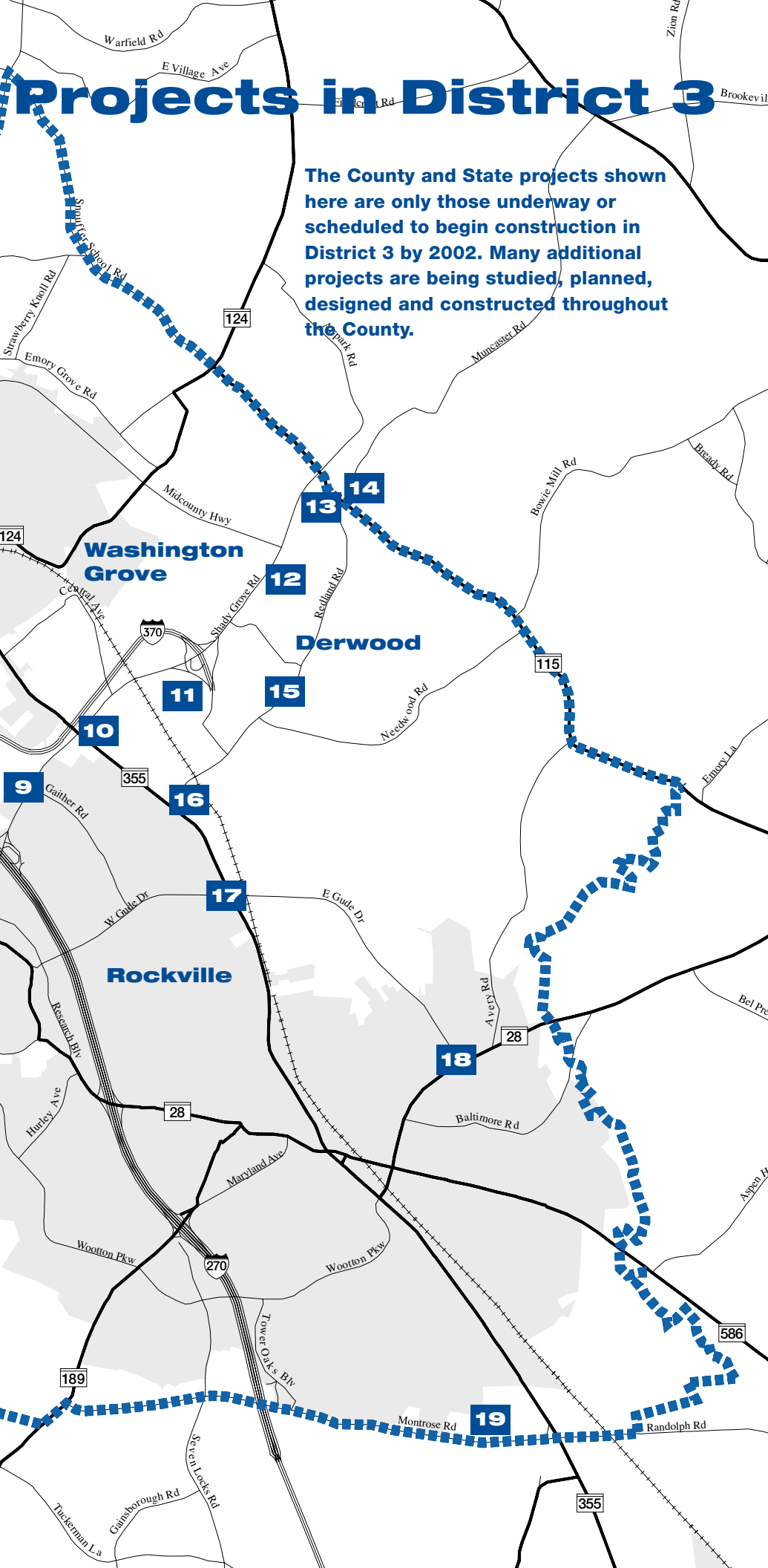
- 1** MD 355 (Frederick Ave.) between MD 124 (Montgomery Village Ave.) and Middlebrook Rd.  
**Widen to six lanes**  
Project recently completed
- 2** Midcounty Hwy, Christopher Ave., Lost Knife Rd. at Montgomery Village Ave.  
**Add left turn lanes**  
Start Date: Summer 2002
- 3** MD 355 (Frederick Ave.) at MD 124 (Montgomery Village Ave.)  
**Rebuild intersection**  
Start Date: Spring 2000
- 4** I-270 at MD 124 (Montgomery Village Ave./Quince Orchard)  
**Build new ramp and Park and Ride Lot**  
Start Date: Summer 1999
- 5** MD 117 (Clopper Rd.) at MD 124 (Quince Orchard Rd.)  
**Rebuild intersection**  
Start Date: Fall 2002
- 6** MD 117 (W. Diamond Ave.) at I-270 in Gaithersburg  
**Multi-lane reconstruction**  
Start Date: Summer 2001
- 7** MD 28 (Darnestown Rd.) Riffle Ford Rd. to Great Seneca Highway  
**Widen to 4 lanes**  
Start Date: Fall 2000
- 8** Great Seneca Highway at Muddy Branch Rd. and Sam Eig Highway  
**Widen portions near intersections and add turning lanes**  
Start Date: Spring 2002
- 9** Gaither Rd. at Shady Grove Rd.  
**Rebuild intersection**  
Start Date: Spring 2000





# Projects in District 3

The County and State projects shown here are only those underway or scheduled to begin construction in District 3 by 2002. Many additional projects are being studied, planned, designed and constructed throughout the County.



- 10** MD 355 (Frederick Rd.) at Shady Grove Rd.  
Rebuild intersection  
Start Date: Summer 2001
- 11** New Parking Garage at Shady Grove Metro  
Add 1,600 parking spaces  
Start Date: Spring, 2000
- 12** Shady Grove Rd., Briardale Rd. to Muncaster Mill Rd.  
Widen to six lanes and add sidewalk from Crabbs Branch Way to Muncaster Mill Rd.  
Start Date: Fall 2002
- 13** MD 115 (Muncaster Mill Rd.) Shady Grove to Redland Rd.  
Rebuild intersections  
Start Date: Spring 2000
- 14** Muncaster Rd./Redland Rd./MD 115 (Muncaster Mill Rd.)  
Rebuild intersections  
Start Date: Fall 1999
- 15** Redland Rd., Crabbs Branch Way to Needwood Rd.  
Widen to 4 lanes  
Start Date: Spring 2002
- 16** MD 355 (Frederick Rd.) at Redland Rd.  
Rebuild intersection  
Start Date: Fall 2002
- 17** MD 355 (Frederick Rd.) at Gude Drive  
Rebuild intersection  
Start Date: Fall 2002
- 18** MD 28 (Norbeck Rd.) at East Gude Drive  
Add turn lanes  
Start Date: Winter 2000
- 19** East Jefferson Street/Executive Blvd. at Montrose Rd.  
Rebuild intersection  
Start Date: Spring 2000

## Quality of Life Matters

### Adding Ballfields

The Council approved a world-class soccer facility at the South Germantown Recreation Park funded through a partnership with the Maryland Soccer Foundation. 19 soccer fields will be available for the Fall, 2000 season. When the recreational facilities are complete, there will be 24 soccer fields (including a championship field), an indoor sports facility, and four baseball/softball fields. The Council approved an additional \$3 million to add and improve ballfields, which will result in an extra 500 games and practices available every week. A new ballfield, two tennis courts, and a tot lot will be built at Flower Hill Local Park.

**There is a pressing need for a community recreation center in North Potomac.** I am working to identify a site for the center in the master plan, and to accelerate construction.

### Supporting Libraries, the Humanities, and the Arts

The new Quince Orchard Library is a much-needed addition to our excellent County library system.

**A new Rockville Regional Library is critically needed. I am working with the Library's many supporters to get it built by 2003.**

To support our vibrant and growing arts community, the Council doubled funding for arts organizations. I worked hard to find an appropriate new home for the Commission on the Humanities, which sponsors outstanding programs. The Council agreed to combine it with the Arts Council and to form the Arts and Humanities Council.

### Approving Cable Competition

For too long, County residents haven't had a choice regarding their cable supplier. As a result of Council action, almost 90 percent of households in the County will have a choice when Starpower completes cabling most of the County by 2005. Starpower will offer telephone and high-speed internet service in addition to cable.

As a member of the committee that reviewed the Starpower proposal, **I insisted that Starpower commit to cable adjacent communities of comparable density. As a result, Starpower agreed to cable North Potomac and Gaithersburg west of 270 by 2005, in addition to cabling other communities in District 3—Derwood, Flower Hill, Gaithersburg east of 270, Rockville City and nearby neighborhoods, and Washington Grove—by then as well.**

### Recycling Mixed Paper

As a strong advocate of recycling, I spoke out for a better mixed paper recycling contract. The result: a better deal that is estimated to save taxpayers \$6 million over the 15-year contract. Already underway in parts of the County, curbside pickup of mixed paper should be available to all single-family homes by August 2000. To find out when your neighborhood will begin receiving mixed paper recycling or if you need a new blue recycling bin, please call 240-777-6410. Remember: newspapers, magazines and telephone books can be recycled at the County waste transfer station at Rt. 355 and Shady Grove Rd.

The Council is committed to achieving the County goal of recycling 50 percent or more of solid waste. **We need your help.** Recycling mixed paper protects our environment and conserves our resources.

#### Mixed paper includes:

- ▶ newspaper
- ▶ white or colored paper
- ▶ junk mail, magazines
- ▶ telephone books
- ▶ flattened corrugated cardboard, cereal boxes and other paper board



#### Councilmember Phil Andrews

Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Phone: 240-777-7906  
councilmember.andrews@co.mo.md.us  
www.co.mo.md.us/council

**Concerned about traffic?**  
See the map of transportation  
projects planned  
for District 3 inside!

STANDARD A  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ROCKVILLE, MD  
PERMIT NO. 138